



AUG.
NO. 204



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BATMAN



MIDNIGHT...GOTHAM
CITY...A BLIND MAN
WALKS A LONELY
STREET...



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STORY BY:
FRANK
ROBBINS

BATMAN

WITH DETECTIVE THE BOY WONDER

ART BY:
IRV NOVICK
&
JOE GIELLA

"Operation:
BLINDFOLD!"

AS THE REVERBERATING GUN-BLASTS SUDDENLY CEASE,
WITH ONLY A RINGING SILENCE ECHOING IN THE EARS
OF THE KILLERS... THE VICTIM LIES LIMB, SAVE FOR
A QUIVERING ATTEMPT TO RAISE HIS CANE-HEAD...



AND GUIDED BY A WILL STRONGER THAN DEATH,
THE CANE, CLUTCHED IN A DEATH-GRIP, STARTS
TO SCRATCH... A MESSAGE...



AND... AS THE PURR OF FINELY TUNED ENGINES THROBS AWAY INTO THE STYGIAN DARKNESS, A LONE
FIGURE LIES STRANGELY DESERTED... ONLY KEPT COMPANY BY AN Eerie EPITAPH!



THEIR DEED DONE, THE TWO "HIT" CARS
TEAR AWAY FROM THE GRIM SCENE...

BETTER REPORT TO
THE CHIEF REAL QUICK!
EVERYTHIN'S HANGIN'
FINE TILL HE GETS
OUR CALL-IN!

IT WENT OFF
SMOOTH LIKE GREASE!
THE SCHEMER SURE
DREAMS UP THE
FOOL-PROOF ONES!

"OPERATION BLINDFOLD"
TO SCHEMER...
COME IN!



SCHEMER-- HERE...
YOU'VE TAKEN YOUR
BLOODY TIME,
"BLINDFOLD"!...
WHAT'S THE
WORD?

OPERATION... OPERATIONAL!
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED,
S-O... BATMAN
IS DEAD!



NO! NO!
I WORRY TOO
MUCH! NOW PUT
THROUGH AN OUTSIDE
CALL TO THE PUZZ... AN!
WHEN COMMISSIONER GORDON
DYES OUR... HEE! HEE!...
GRAVE "MESSAGE"...

GOTHAM CITY IS
OURS! WE'LL ROB IT...
BLIND!



AND AS
THE CARS
PULL UP
TO AN
OUTDOOR
PHONE-
BOOTH,
THE LIGHT
FROM THE
PHONE-
STATION
REVEALS...



PUTTING THROUGH A CALL TO POLICE
"EMERGENCY"...

YEAH--ALLEY
NEAR CORNER OF GRAND
AND MARKET STREETS!
THE "COMMISH" OUGHTA
GET A BANG OUTTA
THIS ONE!

ROUSED AT
HIS HOME BY
A POLICE
ALERT, COMMISSIONER
GORDON IS
PICKED UP
BY A SQUAD
CAR...

I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT!
B-BATMAN
D-DEAD?

AND, PARKED BY A NEARBY INTERSECTION...

PHASE 1 COMPLETE! GORDON IS EN
TO SCENE OF "CRIME"! SOON--
BATMAN WILL BE NO FURTHER
THREAT TO OUR CAPE!
WHAT NEXT, SCHEMER?

ENTER PHASE 2! STATION YOUR MEN
AT DESIGNATED INTERSECTIONS...
ALL ROADS THAT COULD BE
POSSIBLE ROUTE OF
GOLD-BULLION
PICK-UP TRUCK...

...MUST BE
COVERED!

AND SO, ON STRATEGIC CORNERS
THROUGHOUT THE SLEEPING GOTHAM
METROPOLIS... A NETWORK OF SIGHT-
LESS "SPOTTERS" IS SET UP...



WHILE SURVEILLING THE CRIME EVIDENCE
LEFT BY THE "KILLER" GANG...

"I-I WAS AFRAID
OF THIS! I
WARNED HIM..."

"WHO COULD KNOW, LT. OWENS? NO...
I FEARED... WHEN BATMAN INSISTED
ON WORKING UNDERCOVER TO TRAP
A SMUGGLING RING, THE
WHARF RATS..."

"WARNED BATMAN, COMMISSIONER
GORDON? OF WHAT? SURELY
YOU DIDN'T KNOW THIS
WOULD HAPPEN?"

"B-BUT HOW CAN
WE BE SURE... THIS
BLIND MAN REALLY
IS BATMAN?"

"DISGUISED AS A 'BLIND'
MAN!"

COMMISSIONER GORDON
THEY FOUND OUT
I'M BATMAN

"NOBODY KNOWS
HIS REAL IDENTITY...
SO ANYBODY
COULD CLAIM
TO BE HIM!
ANYBODY!"

"ANYBODY BUT... A
DYING MAN! WHAT
WOULD HE HAVE TO
GAIN FROM
LYING?"

"DUNNO, CHIEF!
MAYBE I JUST
DON'T WANT
TO BELIEVE...
THAT BRILLIANT
BATTLER... IS
DEAD! BUT
THERE IS A WAY
TO CHECK...
REAL QUICK!"

"N-NOW... I'LL
GRASP AT ANY
FINE STRAW
RIGHT ABOUT
NOW... ANY!"

COMMISSIONER GORDON
THEY FOUND OUT
I'M BATMAN

CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE FOLLOWING



IF BATMAN... IS STILL ALIVE... HE'LL ANSWER HIS HOT-LINE!

OF COURSE...OF COURSE! I'LL TRY AND RAISE HIM AT ONCE!



THAT'S RIGHT, SERGEANT... RELAY ME THROUGH THE HOT-LINE TO BATMAN!

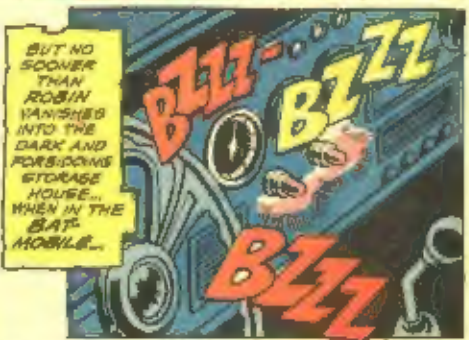
I'LL SWITCH YOU IN, SIR! TAKE JUST A SEC TO UNTANGLE THESE LINES...

AND IN THAT FLIGHT TIME DELAY... AT A WAREHOUSE ON GOTHAM'S MURKY WATERFRONT AREA...



BRUCE'S MESSAGE SAID TO MEET HIM HERE AT MID-NIGHT... SAID HE WAS ON TO SOMETHING HOT! B-BUT I'VE BEEN WAITING OVER AN HOUR... I'M WORRIED!

IF THOSE WHARF RATS SAW THROUGH HIS "BLIND" DISGUISE...? GOT TO GET INSIDE... CHECK AROUND--



BUT NO SOONER THAN ROBIN VANISHED INTO THE DARK AND FORGOT HIS STORAGE HOUSE... WHEN IN THE BAT-MOBILE...



I'M SORRY, COMMISSIONER... NO ANSWER FROM THE BATMOBILE OR BATCAVE!

TH-YANKS, SERGEANT... I'M SORRY TOO--

TH-THEN IT IS TRUE... THE DEAD MAN IS-- BATMAN!

HAS IT FINALLY COME TO PASS? HAS THE DOUGHTY DEFENDER OF TRUTH AND JUSTICE MET... THE UNCONQUERABLE Foe?

I-I REALIZE YOUR DEEP... AND W-WHY NOT? SOONER... OR PERSONAL... LOSS, COMMISSIONER! LATER, DOESN'T MATTER... GORDON... BUT NOW CAN I TELL GOTHAM CITY... THE TRAGIC NEWS?

WHILE IN A WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE, A MAN PRIES OPEN A PACKING CASE, AND...

I WAS RIGHT! THE ULTRA IMPORTANT CO. IS A FRONT FOR THE WHARF RATS SMUGGLING RING!

SUDDENLY... A BLINDING BEAM SPOTLIGHTS THE CORNERED INVESTIGATOR! IT'S BRUCE (BATMAN) WAYNE!

WE WUZ RIGHT! Y'RE NOT "BLIND"... Y'RE A POLICE PLANT! MEBBEE EVEN... BATMAN!

EITHER WAY... Y'VE USED YOUR PEEPERS FOR TH' LAST TIME! CUT 'M DOWN, RATS!

SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO GORDON... HE WARNED ME THIS MIGHT HAPPEN! AND THE ODDS ARE DEAD AGAINST ME!

CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE FOLLOWING.

SUPERMAN IS JIMMY OLSEN'S HANGUP!



In this
**COMPLETE
issue.**

**JIMMY
STRIKES
BACK!**

JIMMY EXPOSES HIS BEST PAL'S SECRET IDENTITY IN
THE BETRAYAL OF SUPERMAN!

ON SALE **JUNE 11th**

BUT THERE'S ONE "FAITHFUL"
WHO WON'T LET BATMAN
DIE EVEN ONCE AS LONG
AS BREATH STIRS IN HIS
BRAVE "E BODY"-ROBIN,
THE BOY WONDER.

MAKE WAY FOR THE
HOME TEAM, KATZ..
I'M THROWIN' A
BLOCKIN' TACKLE

B-BLAST
IN
GGGH!

AM I EVER
HAPPY TO SEE EN
HALF A HALF BACK
LIKE YOU,
ROBIN

TAKES A HOOK
TO CATCH A
HOOK, KATZ!

PLUS AN INCH
LEFT!

DON'T
NEED A BAT..
WHEN A RIGHT HOOK
WILL DO!

KAP

I AM

TIME TO HIT THE SACK
BABY YOU'RE GOING
BED-A-BYE!

SHUPLINGS

IT'S THE TEEN TITAN
A. V.S. A BAVARIAN MAN,
BATMAN Q. A. V.S.
C. V.S. RUG. IS CE
RE. F. INKARE RATS
M. Q. A. A. WARE
HOUSE F. V.S. A. A. IS
THE BEGINNING

NOTHING WE
GETTING WRAPPED
UP IN YOUR WORK
E. A. A. A. A.

NICE OF YOU
TO STRNG
E. A. A. A. A.
ROBIN

FLOW

W. B. L. O. N. G.

G-GOLLY WAS I
EVER ACCRID
WHEN YOU DIDN'T
SHOW AT THE
APPOINTEMENT
DID THEY
FIND OUT

EITHER IF MY
DENTIST? L. H.
UH ROBIN THE
BLACK OUT RIG
ASKED MY FACE
AND I NEVER HAD A
CHANCE TO SWITCH
NTO BATMAN
GEAR

NOW TO CALL THE
POLICE GET THESE
RATS HOLED UP IN A
CELL COMMISSIONER
GORDON MUST BE
PRETTY WORRIED
BY MY LONG
ABSENCE

SURE MUST BE!
MY HAIR ALMOST
TURNED WHITE
FROM FRET
AND SWEAT

POLICE HEAD-
QUARTERS 7
TH 9
BATMAN...
I WANT TO
REPORT

KNOCK IT OFF,
"BATMAN"! THIS
ISN'T APRIL FOOL'S
DAY

NOW SEE HERE SERGEANT...
OR WHATEVER RANK YOU
SQUIGLED THE FORCE
INTO I'VE GOT AN
URGENT SITUATION
HERE TO REPORT!

WE'LL
REPORT IT TO
ST. PETER!
HE'S IN
CHARGE
OF YOUR
DEPART-
MENT
NOW!

ALL
GOTHAM
CITY IS IN
MOURNING TONIGHT!
CORRECTION I SHOULDN'T
SAV ALL... ONLY THOSE
NIGHT OWLS AWAKE TO HEAR
THESE WORDS, AND THE
PEOPLE HE MEANT MOST
TO I EVEN NOW, COMMISS-
SIONER GORDON IS ON THE
SCENE AT GRAND AND
MARKET, PERSONALLY
DIRECTING AN INVESTIGATION
INTO THE BRUTAL
MURDER OF BATMAN!

SO I HEARD
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENED IN OUR
ABSENCE... MAYBE
IT'S ON THE AIR

H-HE
ACTED
LIKE
I WAS
DEAD?

STORY CONTINUES ON 2ND
PAGE FOLLOWING

51

BIG MAMIE never lost a man

A lot of men loved 'Big Mamie'. And she never lost a lover. Officially, she was known as the Battleship USS Massachusetts, but her men gave her the affectionate nickname. They united World

War II together with the first salvoes in North Africa and ended together with the last shot of the Pacific. They fought 35 sea battles with a 100 per cent record.

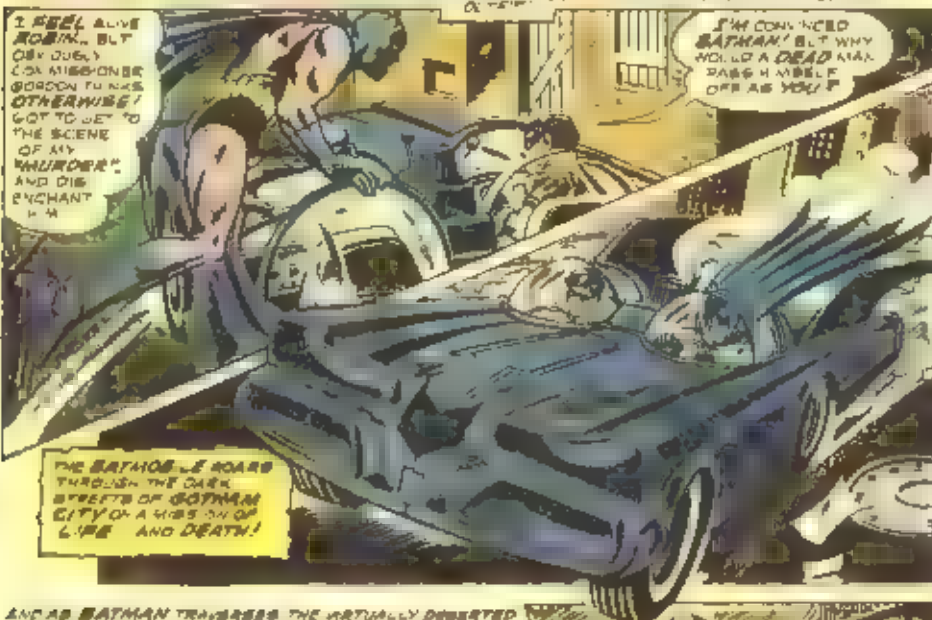
Revel now has a model of the USS Massachusetts for under \$100. She'll be interesting to build, but be careful. You might fall in love.

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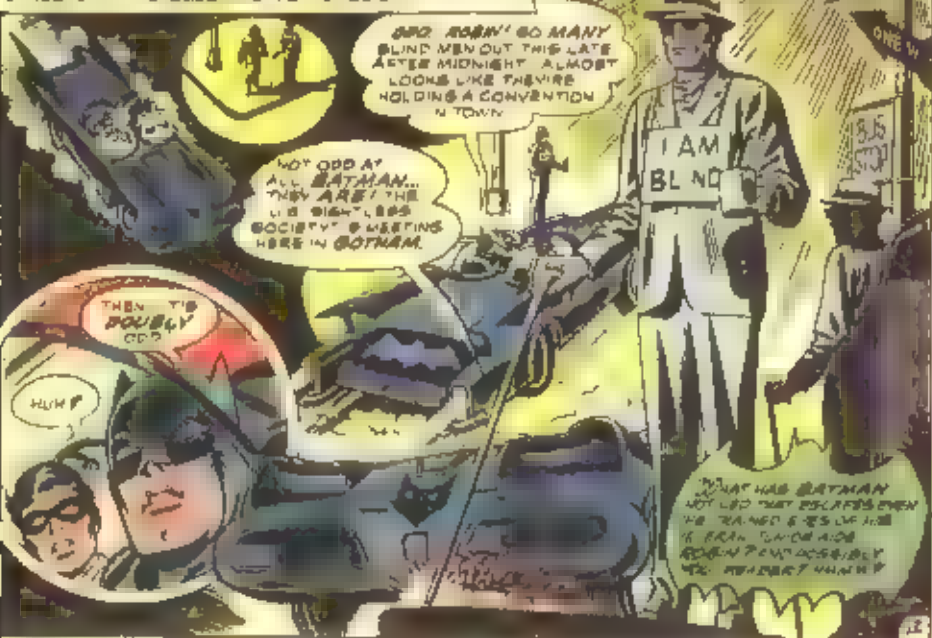


"OPERATION: BLINDFOLD!" PART TWO

AS HE TO REASSURE HIMSELF THAT THE NEWS OF HIS "DEATH" IS FALSE, BRUCE WAYNE CHANGES INTO HIS BATMAN OUTFIT



AND AS BATMAN TRAVERSES THE VIRTUALLY DESERTED STREETS OF THE SLEEPING METROPOLIS





APPROACHING THE SCENE OF THE CRIME

BETTER PARK IN AN OFF STREET
ROBIN: OUR SUDDEN APPEARANCE
IS GOING TO THROW THEM
OFF A BIT

YEAH THEY'RE
ABOUT TO TAKE US
AS IN POSTERS
ANYWAY AND
NIPS FOR
STEALING
JL'S BATMOBILE!

NO TRUER WORDS WERE
ENTERED AS



BUT YOU
MUST LET US
THROUGH I
AM BATMAN
AND THIS IS

EVERY
KOOK WHO
COULD DO UP
THE SCRATCH
TO RENT A
BAT COSTUME
HAS BEEN
HERE BEFORE
YOU, I SEE
GL'S NOW
BREEZE OFF

DRIVEN TO THE BREAKING POINT
BY HIS EXHAUSTING SLEUTH, A
WEARY GORDON LOOKS UP AT
THE DISTURBANCE



EH? WHAT'S
UP NOW,
OFFICER?

THIS ONE TAKES
THE CAKE SIR
KEEPS INSISTING

HMM BUT THEY'RE
THE FIRST TO SHOW
UP IN A PAIR... AS
THE DYNAMIC DUO:
WHO KNOWS?
LET THEM
THROUGH...

OKAY I'VE HAD T ILL TRED
BEAT IF YOU ARE BATMAN
SOLVE THIS MYSTERY!



I'LL TRY
CONVINCE JONER
MAY WE SEE
THE BODY?

SWIFTLY HIS EYES OPERATING LIKE A RAPID-SEQUENCE CAMERA THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE TAKES
IN ALL THE PERTINENT MINUTAE AND RECORDS IT IN HIS COMPTONIC FLESH AND BONE



A BLIND MAN!
AND IT'S SURE
NOT ANYONE
WE KNOW

ALMOST SLIPPED
THAT THE VICTIM
DOESN'T EVEN
LOOK LIKE
BRUCE
WAYNE

AND HE'S OBVIOUSLY NOT
BATMAN- SINCE I AM
SECOND HE
DIDN'T SCRATCH
THE MESSAGE
ON THE WALL

H-HHE
DIDN'T
WHAT?!

MISSION
KEY FOR
BATMAN

NOW THAT'S A BOMBHELL!
NOW DOES BATMAN
FIGURE IT?

ILL ANSWER YOUR QUESTION
COMMISSIONER. WITH A
QUESTION. ASK YOURSELF
HOW CAN A BLIND MAN
SEE TO WRITE?

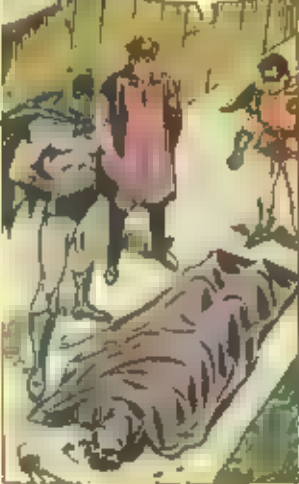
OH NO. YOU
DON'T TALK TO ME
WITH THAT ONE
KNOWING YOU ARE
OBVIOUSLY HE
IS NOT
BLIND AND
THEREFORE

HE HAD
TO BE
BATMAN...
IN AN
UNDERCOVER
DISGUISE



GODD TRY GORDON. BUT OUR
POOR LITTLE HERE WAS
DEFINITELY... SIGHTLESS!
AND POSSIBLY FROM CHILD-
HOOD. OBSERVE
THE SKIN AROUND
HIS EYES

YOU SURE
DO TAKE THE
CAKE BELLA
WHAT'S SO
ODD ABOUT

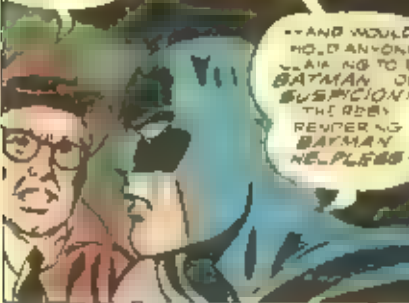


THE SKIN IN THE OUTSIDE
CORNERS, GORDON
SMOOTH, NO GROW'S
FEET! NORMAL SIGHTED
PEOPLE CONSTANTLY SQUINT
IN THE PROCESS OF
SEEING. ERGO HE
DIDN'T SEE!



B-BUT B-BUT
"HIS SA-
WASNT KILLED
FOR NOTHING
AND THAT
MESSAGE
MUST MEAN
SOMETHING!

IT DOES. SIR
I HEARD THE KILLER
GUDED THE DEAD-
MAN'S ARM TO WRITE
THAT EP TAPH. SO
HE WOULD BE. EVE
BATMAN DEAD!

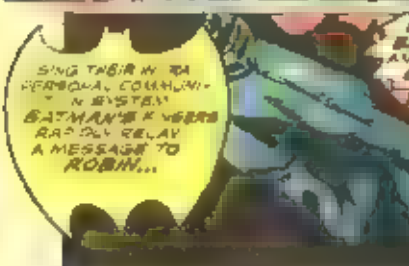


--AND WOULD
HOLD ANYONE
LAINING TO BE
BATMAN ON
SUSPICION!
THE REB-
RENDERING
BATMAN
HELPLESS!

DRIVEN TO COMPLETE DISTRACTION BY THE POWDERING
DEVELOPMENTS, GORDON EXPLODES

WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT
I'M GONNA DO! MEN
HOLD THIS
IMPERSONATOR!
AND HIS
BOY WONDER!

OH-OH I TALKED
MYSELF INTO JUST
WHAT THE KILLER
WANTED. CAN'T FIGHT
THE LAW. BUT I
MUST KEEP
ROBIN FREE



SING THEIR IN RA
PERSONAL COMMUNI-
CATION SYSTEM
BATMAN'S KEYS
RADIO RELAY
A MESSAGE TO
ROBIN...

WATCH ME THEN BREAK FOR
BATMOBILE! PICK UP TRAIL OF
ANY ONE OF THEM. MEN WE SAW
EN-ROUTE. TAIL HIM. I'LL
CONTACT YOU LATER

I DON'T KNOW WHAT
WAS SO ODD
ABOUT THE MEN
HE SAW?



WHY WOULD A CONVENTION OF
"BLIND-SEE" PERSONS BE OUT
ON THE TOWN, EIGHTSEEN?
SOMEHOW, ROBIN... THEY'RE
TIED IN WITH THE "BLIND-
MAN MURDER"!

AND ONE OF THEM MIGHT JUST LEAD US
TO THE KILLER, CARRON BATHMAN...
I'LL FOLLOW YOUR LEAD!

AND AS THEY ARE
ABOUT TO BE TAKEN...

GOT TO CREATE A
DYSERION
FOR
ROBIN'S
DEATH!

HOLD IT BOYS!
YOU MUST
BE BLIND
GORDON THE
ANSWER TO
THIS MYSTERY.
IS RIGHT...
YOUR NOSE ALLOW
ME TO SHOW YOU!

BENDING DOWN TO REMOVE THE VICTIM'S
MASK, AMONG THE CAPED CRUSADERS
SHARP EYES DETECT TWO DETAILS HE
HAD FORMERLY OVERLOOKED.

DEFTLY ACCOMPLISHING
HIS MYSTERIOUS PURPOSE
BATMAN STRAIGHTENS UP AND...

THAT GAVE
AND... NO WAY TO
GET THAT WALKING
STICK NOW, BUT I
MIGHT JUST BE
ABLE TO PALM
THE OTHER!

HERE... TRY
LOOKING
THROUGH
THESE

I SEE
NOTHING!

HMM? THAT DOES
KIND OF BLACK OUT
EVERYTHING.
DOESN'T IT?

AND AS ALL
EYES FOCUS
ON GORDON

BATMAN'S SUBTLE SIGNS TO BE WORKING,
BUT WHAT DID HE PALM?

ROBIN MAKES A BEE-LINE FOR THE BATMOBILE...
INTENT ON ARRY'G OUT HIS ASS INET MISSION.
ALL THE 3 PURP'NO

THE KID'S GONE!
THAT WAS A SHABBY
TRICK "BATMAN"

MAYBE GORDON BUT
NO TRICK'S "GO LOW
FOR AN "IMPOSTOR" EH?

AND AS THE TEEN-AGE THUNDERBOLT STREAKS
AWAY ON HIS GRAND...

GOT TO FIND
ME ONE OF THOSE "BLIND
MEN... AND LATCH
ONTO HIM!

GET
OUT AN
ALL-CARG
ALERT I WANT
THAT ROBIN-
MASQUERADER
BRIGHT IN
AND AS FOR YOU

I'M PLTTING YOU
IN PROTECTIVE
CUSTODY AGAINST
ME! GET IN THE
SQUAD-CAR

YOU'RE MAKING
A B G M STAKE
COMM SSIONER SOME
ONE'S PLANNING A BIG
CAPER TONIGHT AND
YOU ARE
HELPING H M

I'LL TAKE THE EVIDENCE"
WITH ME TAKE THE
DOA TO THE CITY
MORGUE GIVE
THE USUAL
ONCE-OVER

THE BLIND VICTIM
COULD'VE HAD
ANOTHER
AFFLICTION IN
WHICH CASE THIS
IS JUST ANOTHER
SELF-CONTAINED
MINI-HEARING-AID!
OR

BUT AS THEY PASS A HIDDEN OBSERVER...

OPERATION BLINDFOLD
TO SCHEMER IN
OPERATION
BLINDFOLD TO

EH? I'M PICKING UP
A... RADIO TRANSMISSION
WHICH MEANS "THIS
HEARING-AID" IS
ACTUALLY A FIXED-
FREQUENCY
RECEIVER!

BLINDFOLD TO SCHEMER.
COME IN

COME IN
URGENT

SCHEMER TO
BLINDFOLD: HEAR CL
OOO AND CLEAR - PROCEED

A RADIO TRANSMISSION
THE FIRST, NEARBY THE
OTHER Distant

AG I
THOUGHT
THERE'S A "TALK"
BUTTON INSIDE
THE HANDLE

BUT YOU'RE
A KOOK
SCHEMER!

AND BEFORE
HE STARTLED
GORDON CAN
REACT

BL
WHAT?

BATMAN
TAKEN INTO
CUSTODY BY
CAPTAIN GORDON
HEADING FOR
POLICE HQ
BUT

AND SINCE THIS
"HEARING AID" IS A
RECEIVER THEN
THAT CAME COULD BE
A TRANSMITTER!
GOTTA TEST IT

TRY THAT AGAIN
MISTER AND YOU
MAY NOT REACH
HEADQUARTERS
SERGEANT PUT
THE CUFFS
ON HIM

SORRY,
CHIEF JUST
A MAD
IMPULSE

BUT I PROVED MY
HUNCH AND OOOO
ARE THE SCHEMER
ORDERED THE BLIND-
MAN KILLING!

THUNDERATION! WE CAN'T HAVE
HIM LOOSE - FINISH OUR
OPERATION! GET HIM
DEAD OR ALIVE!

GREAT
BIG HEAP
OF HELP I
AM O
ROBIN..
- S 344

I, I DIDN'T SAY T
SCHEMER!
S SOMEONE
CUT IN ON US
M-MAYBE ONE
OF OUR BOYS
IS. SA
JOKER?

NO TIME FOR THAT
NOW. I'LL FIND
HIM, AND DEAL
WITH HIM...
LATER!
NOW, WHAT
WAS YOUR
URGENT?

R-ROBIN!
HE'S
ESCAPED!

BOTH THE
POLICE AND
SCHEMER'S
BLIND-KILLERS
ARE AFTER
ROBIN, AND
BATMAN IN
CLOOY
HANDCUFFED
- THE BOY
WONDER
IS ON HIS
OWN!

WITHIN MOMENTS THE SCHEMER'S BARR ORDERS ARE RELAYED TO ALL HIS SPOTTERS STAKED OUT ALL OVER GOTHAM CITY

AND AT THAT INSTANT...

RED ALERT RED
ALERT ROBIN
IN THE AIR

MUST
INTERFERE WITH
OPERATION
BLINDFOLD!

ZONE 5 GRID REFERENCE
21 REPORTING! SCHEMER!
SOLD PICK-UP TRUCK!
CROSSING MY CHECK POINT
HEADING SOUTH ON MAIN BLVD..

PICK UP
ZONE 4
STAKE OUT'S

I AM
BLIND

I AM
BLIND

SHORTLY
NEAR A
ZONE 4
CORNER

AM THREE'S ONE
OF OUR BOWLESS
SIGHTSEERS BETTER
DOUBT MY LIGHTS. DARK AND
AND COVER IN A HALLWAY
WHERE I CAN WATCH HIM

BUT I'VE A THAT SP. T. SECOND

ZONE 4 GRID REFERENCE 40
REPORTING! OBJECTIVE
TURNING
CORNER MAIN
AND C ARN
HEADED WEST.

AND AS THE SPOTTER TURNS TO FOLLOW HIS QUARRY'S PASSAGE... ROBIN IS CAUGHT FLAT-FOOTED
PLAY REVEALED

ROBIN #1

HE'S SEEN ME
AND HE'S SAYING THAT
GANG #1!

CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE FOLLOWING

THAT CANE'S A ROCKET-LAUNCHER! HE'S FIRING A MINI-KNUBBLE AT ME! GOT TO FIND COVER!

THE UNEXPECTED TURN OF THE ARMORED VEHICLE PROVIDES IDEAL COVER AS ROBIN HITCHES ON IN FULL STRIDE JUST AS

WE'RE BEING ATTACKED! AN' WE HAVEN'T EVEN GOT THE GULD YET

WE'LL TAKE AN ALTERNATE ROUTE

WHEE! THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE

ZUNG

AND AS ROBIN HANGS ON UNNOTICED.

EVEN THE BANK WE'RE HEADING FOR, HAS BEEN KEPT TOP SECRET! W-WHAT GIVES?

WE CAN'T EVEN BREAK RADIO SILENCE! GOTTA POUR ON THE GAS. AN' KEEP TAKIN' Evasive!

KOP

ROBIN HITCHED A RIDE ON OUR "OBJECTIVE", GRID 22! THEY'RE HEADED YOUR WAY. GET HIM! I MISSED WITH A M NI-ROCKET...

(DID I Y'HAUGHT'VE ALERTED THE TRUCK GUARDS... I'LL GET HIM... BUT... SILENTLY!

I AM
01/19

AND AS THE OBJECTIVE NEARS CHECK-POINT GRID 2E...

ALERT FOR MORE "SIGHTLESS"
STAKE-OUTS, ROBIN SPOTS
APPROACHING DOOM...



I CAN PICK 'EM OFF WITHOUT
RUFFLING THE FEATHERS OF
THAT TRUCK CREW! WITH
THIS CO-2* GLENT
PROPELLANT...

GOING
TOO FAST TO
DROP OFF...
SURE DEATH!
BUT IF I DON'T...
MAYBE CAN EDGE
AROUND TO FAR
SIDE... OF TRUCK...



BUT AT THAT INSTANT,
TEARING ALONG ON
A COLLISION
COURSE...

TH- THE...
POLICE...
G-GOTTA...
BEAT IT!

IF ONLY BATMAN KNEW HOW CLOSE HE WAS TO
ROBIN...



AND INSIDE THE DISASTER-BENT SQUAD-CAR...

ROBIN'S IN
DANGER... SOME-
WHERE! BEEN PICKING
UP THE "BLINDFOLD"
GANG'S KILL ORDERS!
IF ONLY I COULD
ESCAPE...

H-HOLD
TIGHT... WE'RE
GONNA CRASH-
STOP!



CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE FOLLOWING.

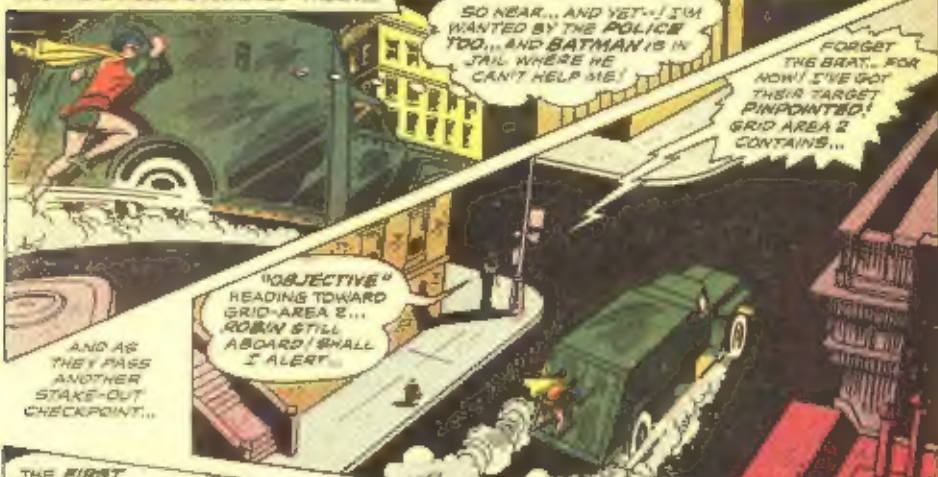
SNEEVING AT THE LAST INSTANT, BRAKES BURNING...THE MOVING OBJECT IS BROUGHT TO A PANIC STOP...
BY AN IMMEDIATE OBJECT! THE REAR DOOR SPRINGS OPEN, AND...



WITH COMMISSIOONER GORDON AND THE POLICE MOMENTARILY STUNNED, BATMAN CONTINUES TO ROLL...DOWN A LONG FLIGHT OF STAIRS, TO WHERE ANOTHER MAN ALSO FLEES!



WITH BATMAN IN A FATAL BIND, HIS FELLOW TEEN-CRUSADER IS BOUNDED... AS IF HANDCLIFFED TO THE CAREENING ARMORED-TRUCK...



SO NEAR... AND YET... I'M WANTED BY THE POLICE TOO... AND BATMAN IS IN JAIL WHERE HE CAN'T HELP ME!

FORGET THE BRAT... FOR NOW! I'VE GOT THEIR TARGET PINPOINTED! GRID AREA 2 CONTAINS...

"OBJECTIVE" HEADING TOWARD GRID-AREA 2... ROBIN STILL ABOARD! SHALL I ALERT...

AND AS THEY PASS ANOTHER STAKE-OUT CHECKPOINT...

THE FIRST FEDERAL BANK! THAT'S GOT TO BE THE PICK-UP POINT FOR THE GOLD-BULLION! CALL IN ALL STAKE-OUTS...

THEY'RE TO CONVERGE ON OUR TARGET... USING OPERATIONAL PLAN "A"!

FIRST FEDERAL BANK

IT BETTER BE! THE BANK-TRANSFER WILL BE THEIR MOST VULNERABLE TIME! IF YOU GOOF THAT... THEY'LL PROCEED WITH THE 50 MILLION...

... TO GOTHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRFIELD... WHERE A VIRTUAL ARMY WILL GUARD IT TILL TAKE-OFF TO EUROPE! SO... DON'T GOOF!

AND... HEH! HEH!... Y'CAN POLISH OFF THE... HA! HA!... BOY WONDER AT THE SAME TIME! A TIGHT PLAN, EH... BRAIN-DRAIN?

HOOT MON! WHOO-HOO!

UNDERSTOOD... SCHEMER!



BATMAN'S HEAD CLEARS QUICKLY AS SCHEMER'S URGENT ORDERS ARE RELAYED THROUGH TO ALL "SPOTTERS!"



IMPERATIVE! PROCEED TO FIRST FEDERAL BANK! USE PLAN 'A' TO FINISH OFF ROBIN AT SCENE!

COMING OUT OF IT, EH, BATMAN? GOOD... I WANTED YOUR EYES OPEN, SO YOU COULD SEE YOURSELF GET IT!

SPOTTER GRID 22 REPORTING IN TO SCHEMER! WILL JOIN OTHERS AS SOON AS I... ELIMINATE--BATMAN!



NOW BATMAN KNOWS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF OPERATION: BLINDFOLD... AND ITS GRIM SECONDARY OBJECTIVE... THE DEATH OF HIS TEEN WARD, ROBIN! BUT, IF HE CANNOT RELIEVE HIS OWN PLIGHT... WHAT GOOD WILL THAT KNOWLEDGE DO HIM--IN HIS GRAVE? A GRAVE PLIGHT... THAT HE CANNOT MAKE LIGHT OF! IF TWIDDLING YOUR THUMBS WILL RELIEVE YOUR TENSION TILL THE NEXT (SEPTEMBER) ISSUE... TWIDDLE WHILE BATMAN BURNS!



BE MY GUEST

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AMUSEMENT PARK N.J.

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